

Substitute Senate Bill No. 312

Public Act No. 15-221

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE CHILDREN.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The child fatality review panel, established pursuant to 46a-13l of the general statutes, shall review the current policies, practices and procedures used to protect children ages birth to three years in the state from unexpected death or critical injury.

- (b) Not later than October 1, 2016, the panel shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and education. Such report shall (1) address the effectiveness of current policies, practices and procedures used to protect children ages birth to three years in the state from unexpected death or critical injury, and (2) provide recommendations for any administrative or legislative action necessary to better protect such children.
- Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Office of the Child Advocate, in consultation with the child fatality review panel, established pursuant to 46a-13l of the general statutes, shall conduct a

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study regarding the causes and rates of child fatalities in the state.

- (b) Not later than July 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the Child Advocate shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and education regarding the causes and rates of child fatalities in the state.
- (c) Not later than sixty days after receiving the annual report submitted by the Child Advocate pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and education shall hold a joint public forum regarding the causes and rates of child fatalities in the state.

Approved July 2, 2015